

Amendments to the Claims:

1 (currently amended). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment of ~~digital-information~~ signals transmitted according to different standards, at least some of said ~~digital-information~~ signals being reserved digital signals which are reserved to predetermined signal sockets of said condominium and/or community environment, and the remainder of said ~~information digital~~ signals, if any, being nonreserved ~~digital~~ signals, said system, comprising

means for receiving said ~~information digital~~ signals,

means for amplifying and converting the frequencies of said ~~information digital~~ signals,

means for mixing said reserved digital signals and non-reserved signals on a distribution network

a plurality of signal sockets operatively connected to said means for mixing for receiving said mixed reserved and non-reserved ~~digital~~ signals,

means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into reserved personal channels, each of said personal channels being reserved to a corresponding one of said predetermined signal sockets, and forbidden to the remaining sockets,

means operatively connected to each of said predetermined sockets for allowing access to a corresponding personal channel, said means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the

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received digital signals into personal channels being controlled through respective user control means, the received nonreserved signals being distributed into frequency bands not within the personal channels.

2 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in personal channels make use of the same type of modulation for each predetermined socket.

3 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the distribution network comprises a distribution support including a coaxial cable.

4 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the distribution network comprises MMDS and/or LMDS networks.

5 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said personal channel is 8 MHz wide.

6 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the digital signal being present in said personal channel is QAM modulated.

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7 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said personal channel is contained in a frequency band between 47 and 862 MHz.

8 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 7, wherein said frequency band ranges from 230 to 445 MHz.

9 (currently amended). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the means for allowing access to said personal channels comprises means for filtering said personal channel, said means for filtering being operatively connected between the relative signal socket and said means for mixing reserved and nonreserved ~~digital~~ signals.

10 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 9, wherein said means for filtering comprises a band-stop filter for filtering a band corresponding to said personal channel and adapted to block reception of signals in the filtered band by a receiver connected to the signal socket.

11 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 10, wherein said filtering means further comprises a band-pass filter in parallel with said band-stop filter, and which is adapted to

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pass to the signal socket a signal which is distributed in the personal channel.

12 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the selection of the reserved digital signals, the frequencies of which are to be converted in said personal channels, is performed through return-channel modules operatively connected to said predetermined signal sockets for exchanging signals on a return channel.

13 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is FSK modulated.

14 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is PSK modulated.

15 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is QPSK modulated.

16 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel is QAM modulated.

17 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein bidirectional communication is performed under TDMA procedure.

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18 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel has a band width of 128 KHz or a multiple thereof.

19 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel is has a frequency between 41 and 46.5 MHz.

20 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return channel is provided on a coaxial cable of the distribution network.

21 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein each return channel module operated by a user makes use of a return channel which is not accessible to any other user of the system operating on a different return channel module.

22 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is radiofrequency irradiated.

23 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into personal channels comprises a transmodulator.

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24 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein a user terminal and an IRD receiver-decoder are provided at the signal socket, which can be operated by a same remote-control.

25 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein a single transmodulator device comprises two or more means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into personal channels.

26 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 25, wherein said transmodulator device comprises means for tuning, which are adapted to perform the selection of said reserved digital signals within at least two frequency ranges, and means for demodulating which are adapted to demodulate at least two digital signals transmitted with different standards.

27 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device includes at least two tuners for the selection of digital signals, and at least two demodulators of said digital signals.

28 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device also includes a switch adapted for receiving the digital signals coming from said demodulators.

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29 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 28, wherein said transmodulator device also comprises a modulator for remodulating the output signal of said switch.

30 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 29, wherein said transmodulator device also comprises a converter for converting the frequencies of the output signal of said modulator into a personal channel.

31 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said user control means are adapted to generate one or more upstream digital signals to be transmitted and convert their frequencies into the personal channels, further comprising

selection and handling means for selecting said upstream digital signals, and

means for the transmission of said upstream signals to a satellite through an antenna and/or to a service provider through a cable.

32 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein transmodulator means and said second selection means operate respectively on the received downstream signals or on upstream signals QAM modulated under SCPC procedure.

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33 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein the upstream signals and downstream signals are simultaneously present in the same personal channel.

34 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 33, wherein the upstream signals and the downstream signals occupy frequency bands which do not overlap.

35 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein both the upstream signals and the downstream signals are not simultaneously present in the same personal channel.

36 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 31, wherein said transmodulator means and said selection and handling means are housed in a single container.

37 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein the user control means comprise a receiver adapted to perform an access function to a plurality of conditioned access services, by reading the information contained in a smart card, and wherein said information contained in said smart card controls the means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in the personal channel.

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38 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprises information for tuning transmodulator means.

39 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprise information for the tuning of transponder preselection means.

40 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 39, wherein the information for the tuning of the transponder preselection means is selection information for the bands of the channels to be tuned.

41 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 39, wherein information for the tuning of the transponder preselection means comprises information for determining the polarization of the channels to be tuned.

42 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 38, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprises frequency information for the channels to be tuned.

43 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37,

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wherein said information contained in the smart card further comprises frequency information for said personal channel.

44 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein the selection means and the smart card contain respective electronic keys, whose congruence enables the operation of said system.

45 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 37, wherein the control means contain a device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card.

46 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein said program memory is an EEPROM type memory.

47 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein the device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card operates on data sent to the control means by a modem.

48 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 45, wherein said device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card operates on data sent to the control means by means of the Service Information contained in the received digital signal.

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49 (previously presented). A system for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1, wherein said means for allowing access to said personal channels is adapted to prevent the passage of signals generated inside a further distribution network associated with a signal socket inside a dwelling.

50 (currently amended). Method for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of digital information signals, at least some of said information digital signals being reserved digital signals which are reserved to predetermined signal ~~signal~~-sockets of said condominium and/or community, and the remainder of said information digital-signals, ~~if any, being nonreserved digital signals~~, said method comprising:

receiving said information digital-signals;

converting the frequencies of the received reserved digital signals into personal channels;

mixing said reserved and nonreserved ~~digital~~-signals on a distribution network;

distributing through said distribution network said reserved and nonreserved ~~digital~~-signals to a plurality of sockets;

controlling the digital signals received by a specific socket remote control means;

~~wherein said converting the frequencies of the received digital signals comprises converting the frequency of each reserved digital signal required by one of said predetermined sockets in a~~

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each personal channel that is exclusively associated with one of said sockets, and the digital-received non reserved signals are distributed into frequency bands not within said personal channels, and the reserved digital signals are controlled by remotely converting the frequency of each reserved digital signal required by said one predetermined socket into a personal channel for the purpose of selecting the content of said personal channel.

51 (currently amended). Method for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information digital signals according to claim 50, further comprising selecting a frequency in the frequency range of each personal channel, said frequency being selected after said reserved and nonreserved ~~digital~~ signals are mixed on the distribution network and before receiving the reserved ~~digital~~ signals through a receiver associated with a respective personal channel.

52 (currently amended). Method for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information digital signals according to claim 51, further comprising the step of filtering the frequencies associated with the personal channels after mixing said reserved and nonreserved ~~digital~~ signals on the distribution network and before receiving the reserved digital signals through said receiver.

53 (previously presented). Method for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, of a plurality of information signals according to claim 51, wherein converting the

frequency of each reserved digital signal required by a predetermined socket into a personal channel provides for conversion of all of said reserved digital signals in a unique type of modulation.

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